

EXECUTIVE

NO 28/C0312

PC

SP3-101

July 28, 1965

Dear Dr. Spock:

I want to thank you for your earnest and thoughtful telegram of July 23. I think the best answer I can give is to enclose a copy of the statement which I have made today on this subject.

While I cannot accept all of your proposals, I fully share your view that it is enormously important to hold our own country together and to act in such a way that we keep the path to peace open. I will be grateful for everything that you can do for this same purpose of avoiding division among us.

Sincerely,



LYNDON B. JOHNSON

X

Benjamin Spock, M. D.



LBJ:McG. B. :mz

Enclosure: Statement by the Pres., 7/28/65, re Vietnam.

RECEIVED

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR
McGEORGE BUNDY

Will you please prepare a
reply to this?

Jack Valenti

*Brinkley
file 7 in 11*
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The White House
Washington

1965 JUL 23 PM 4 35

WA193 DL PD

BOSTON MASS 23 1136A EDT

THE PRESIDENT

CARE JACK VALENTI THE WHITE HOUSE

I SEND YOU THIS MESSAGE WITH THE GREATEST EARNESTNESS AND CONCERN
I HAVE EVER FELT IN MY LIFE. I URGE THAT YOU EARN THE WORLDS
GRATITUDE BY THE CESSATION OF BOMBING (AS A SIGN OF OUR GOOD
FAITH WHICH OUR ADVERSARIES DOUBT) AND BY THE OFFER OF A CEASE
FIRE. I BELIEVE MOBILIZATION WILL ONLY CAUSE COUNTER MOBIL-
IZATION BY THE COMMUNIST NATIONS, WORLD WIDE ALARM AND CONDEM-

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NATION OF THE UNITED STATES, INTENSIFYING DIV-
ISION AMONG OUR PEOPLE, AND ALWAYS LESS RATHER THAN MORE CHANCE OF
NEGOTIATION. THIS CAN END ONLY IN HUMILIATING DEFEAT FOR
US AS IT DID FOR THE FRENCH OR IN NUCLEAR ANNIHILATION

BENJAMIN SPOCK MD

STAT

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